

The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity's 25th Annual Art & Essay Contest, open to all Illinois fifth through eighth-grade students, provides the opportunity to learn about our state's most substantial natural resource, COAL. The contest is designed to highlight the heritage and importance of Illinois coal and the coal mining industry. The visual/written entries will demonstrate the students' understanding of how coal is formed, mined or transported, as well as its impact on our daily lives.

## Entries

Entries should express the impact of coal on everyday life in Illinois communities. Artwork/essays should be specific to **ILLINOIS**. Suggested topics include:

- How is coal mining today different from coal mining in the early 1900s?
- How are new coal power plants different than those built in the 1950s?
- What coal means to our state
- Important historical figures or events in Illinois' coal industry
- Job opportunities and careers in Illinois' coal industry
- How have mine safety laws and regulations improved mining conditions and coal miner safety?
- How has Illinois coal played a role in the history of my family or community?
- Methods of transporting Illinois coal

A list of research resources can be found at [www.illinoisbiz.biz/dceo/Bureaus/Coal/Education/](http://www.illinoisbiz.biz/dceo/Bureaus/Coal/Education/)

## Art Division

Posters are judged on originality, technique, visual impact and message as it relates to Illinois coal. Posters must be created in one of the specified medias and must be horizontal on 12" x 18" white paper. A panel of judges will select 13 posters – one for each month and the first-place poster will be featured on the 2014 Coal Calendar cover.

## Essay Division

Essays must be the original work of the students. Essays should be creative, inspiring and demonstrate what the students have learned from their research. Poems are acceptable. A panel of judges will select 12 essays, and one of the 12 essays will be chosen as the first-place essay winner and will be given special recognition in the 2014 Coal Calendar.

## Judging

Entries are reviewed by a panel of representatives from the industry and education fields. All decisions of the judges are final.

Artwork and essay entries will not be returned. They will become the property of the contest sponsor and may be used in promotional documents for Illinois coal. Reasonable care will be taken to ensure the safety of all work. However, the contest sponsor will not be responsible for damage or theft during shipping.

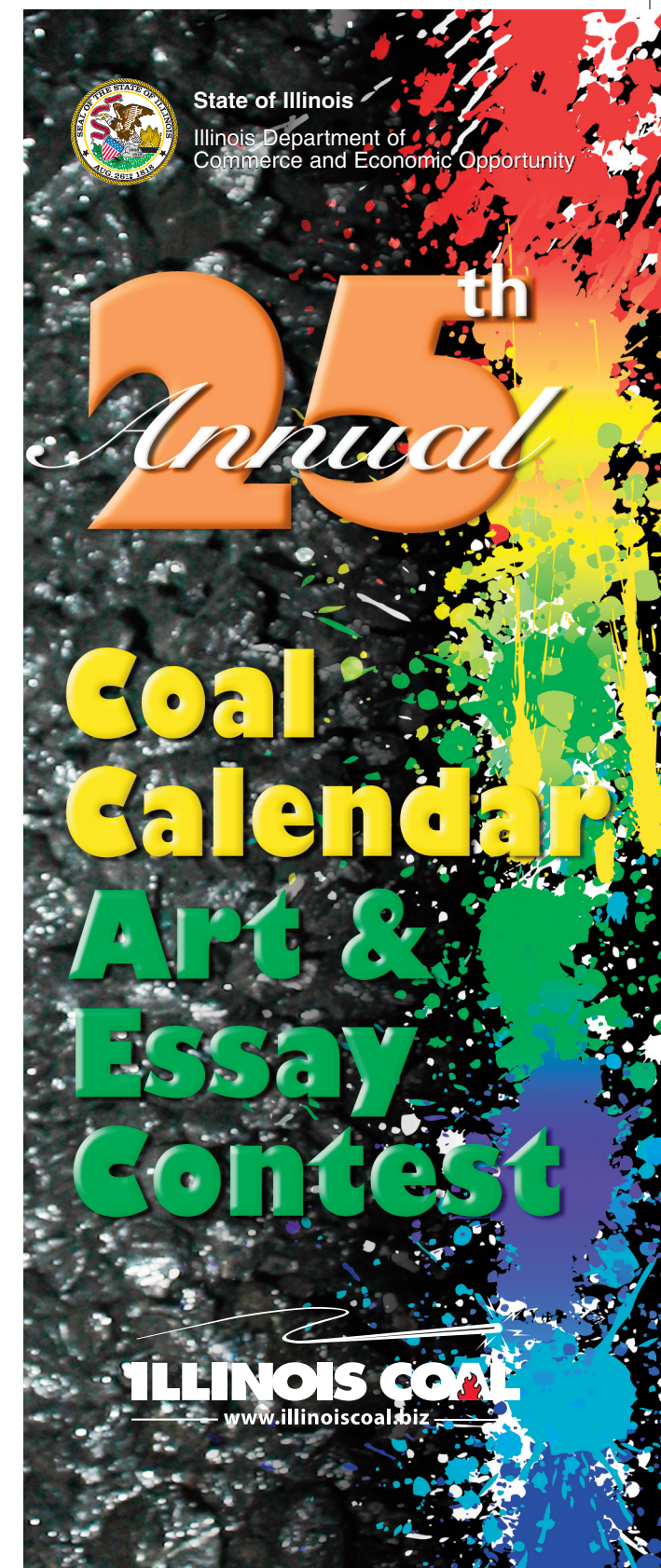
## Deadline

Artwork/essays with completed forms must be received no later than **March 4, 2013**. Due to the increased cost of mailing, we encourage teachers to select and submit the best entries.

Illinois Department of  
Commerce and Economic Opportunity  
Office of Coal Development  
500 East Monroe Street  
Springfield, IL 62701



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## Prizes

To commemorate the 25th year of the calendar contest, the Illinois Clean Coal Institute will award a lap top and projector to the school submitting the most entries and a second lap top and projector to the school with the highest percentage of participating eligible students based on enrollment. A drawing will be held in case of a tie. Therefore, it is necessary for each supervising teacher to record the number of participating students and the number of eligible students enrolled in their school on the **Teacher Entry Form**.

The **first-place poster winner** and **first-place essay winner** will receive \$100, and the **other poster and essay winners** will each receive \$50 provided by the Illinois Coal Association. Winning students will also receive complimentary copies of the 2014 Illinois Coal Calendar in which their artwork/essays will be displayed. The first-place poster entry will be featured on the cover of the calendar, and the first-place essay entry will have special recognition in the calendar.

The Illinois Coal Association will present to the first-place poster winner's school a monetary award for its art program and will also present to the first-place essay winner's school a monetary award for the school's writing/research/library program.

Each **teacher** with a winning student will be recognized with an award to display in his/her classroom.

**All students** participating in the contest will receive a participation gift.

## Award Ceremony

An award ceremony to recognize the 25 winners of the contest will be held during May 2013 in Springfield. At that time, the awards will be presented to the students, the teachers and the school principals of the winning schools.

## Guidelines

Please use the following checklist to ensure that all entries are eligible.

- Entries must be created by students who are currently in the fifth through eighth grade.
- The student entry form must be fully completed and securely taped to the back of each entry.
- Each teacher must submit one teacher entry form per class. The number of participating students and school enrollment must be recorded on each teacher entry form. The teacher will receive recognition if his/her student is a winner.
- Posters may be done in marker, crayon, water-color, ink, acrylic or tempera paint. **Posters must be reproducible.** Avoid materials that are difficult to reproduce such as chalk, colored pencils, glitter, beads or three-dimensional art.
- Posters must be flat. Please refrain from sending folded, matted, mounted, rolled or framed artwork.
- Art entries must be done **horizontally** on **white 12" x 18" paper**.
- Entries should not contain any copyrighted or trademarked images or material.
- Essays should be at least one page and no more than two pages in length. Essays may be neatly handwritten or typed, double spaced, on one side of the paper only.
- Copied material should be indicated by quotations.
- Essays should have a **works cited page**.

## 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Coal Calendar Art & Essay Contest Student Entry Form

(Please print)

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone (     ) \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Classroom Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Art    ☐ Essay (check one)

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Note: Each entry must have one of these forms taped securely to the back. This form may be copied.

..... cut along dotted line .....

## 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Coal Calendar Art & Essay Supervising Teacher Entry Form

(Please print)

Please complete & submit one form with your classroom entries.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

School Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

School Phone (     ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Principal \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of essays submitted** \_\_\_\_\_ **Number of posters submitted** \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of students participating in contest** \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of eligible students enrolled in your school** \_\_\_\_\_

Return completed entry form by March 4, 2013 to:  
**Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, Office of Coal Development,**  
**Attn: Illinois Coal Calendar Contest, 500 East Monroe Street, Springfield, IL 62701.**